

CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

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SUBJECT Operation of the Fütting & Co. Export Firm NO. OF PAGES 2

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1. Fütting and Company was founded in 1886 as "International Exporters and Importers K. Fütting and Company" in Wuppertal, Rheinland, as an exporter of special iron and steel products. The firm prospered and before the end of the war had subsidiaries in Berlin, Prague, Breslau, Dieringhausen, Leipzig, and Vienna. During the war, probably in 1944 (the date is not clear), the company was evacuated to Breslau and later, when the eastern front approached Germany, to Zöblitz in the Erzgebirge (N51/K84). This remains both the official headquarters of the company and the residence of the owner, Fütting, and his sister, who is co-owner.

2. At the end of the war, Fütting opened his firm as a wholesale business buying and selling any sort of merchandise from textiles and toys to old military supplies. 50X1-HUM

The situation changed when SMA requested Fütting and Company to undertake export transactions for the Russians. The firm was chosen partly for its impressive stationery with the heading "International Exporters and Importers" and its registration as a special export-import firm. 50X1-HUM

3. Under SMA protection, the firm made a spectacular rise; the number of employees in the most important departments in the Russian Zone increased five to ten times. It abandoned its original specialization in iron and steel in favor of textile pieces and individual items (Firma Limportex in Leipzig has the rights for yard goods), and worked closely with other firms on SMA orders. This limited field is not definitely settled, for Fütting first was given monopoly in the entire textile field, then cut down to piece goods, and later considered expanding into the field of products related to textiles. 50X1-HUM

4. Besides its main office in Zöblitz, the firm has branches in Berlin, Dresden, Leipzig, Zwickau, Köthen (Anhalt), Wuppertal, and has either established individual representatives or is contem- 50X1-HUM

CLASSIFICATION

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